

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:

an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned air, which is provided with a ventilation opening and a defroster opening;

a ventilation duct connected to the air conditioning unit at the ventilation opening, which conducts the air-conditioned air to a ventilation outlet;

a defroster duct connected to the air conditioning unit at the defroster opening, which conducts the air-conditioned air to a defroster outlet; and

an additional duct branching off from the defroster duct, which conducts the air-conditioned air from the defroster duct to an upper ventilation outlet which is provided on an upper surface of an instrument panel to blow the air-conditioned air toward the upper rear of a passenger compartment[.], only when any one of a ventilation mode, a bi-level mode, and a foot mode is selected.

2. (Original) The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a switching damper for selectively conducting the air-conditioned air from the defroster duct to either the defroster outlet or the additional outlet.

3. (Original) The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 2, further comprising:

an open/close damper for opening and closing passage of the air-conditioned air of the additional duct.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Withdrawn)

6. (Original) The vehicle air conditioning system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a ventilation damper for opening and closing the ventilation opening of the air conditioning unit, wherein the ventilation damper is controlled to open and close the ventilation opening in dependence on a selected air distribution mode, and wherein the defroster opening is kept open irrespective of the selected air distribution mode.

7. (Currently Amended) A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:

an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned air;

first and second ducts connected to the air conditioning unit, the first duct conducting the air-conditioned air to a ventilation outlet, the second duct conducting the air-conditioned air to a defroster outlet; [[and]]

a third duct branching off from the second duct, which conducts the air-conditioned air to ~~one of~~ an upper ventilation outlet provided on an upper surface of an instrument panel to blow the air-conditioned air toward the upper rear of a passenger compartment or a rear ventilation outlet provided near a vehicle rear ~~[[seat.]]~~ seat; and

a damper configured to selectively open the second duct or the third duct.

8. (Currently Amended) A vehicle air conditioning system comprising:
- an air conditioning unit for generating air-conditioned air;
 - a first path for conducting the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit to a ventilation outlet;
 - a second path for conducting the air-conditioned air from the air conditioning unit to a defroster outlet to blow the air-conditioned air toward a windshield; and
 - a third path branching off from the second path for conducting the air-conditioned air to an additional outlet ~~other than the ventilation outlet and the defroster outlet.~~ when blowing the air-conditioned air from the defroster outlet is stopped.